

LOCAL & NATIONAL NEWS

Congressman Rogers secures \$37M more for Pulaski County Northern Bypass

DANIELLE SMOOT
MAIL.HOUSE.GOV

WASHINGTON, DC — U.S. Rep. Harold "Hal" Rogers (KY-05) secured \$37 million in federal funding for construction of the Northern Bypass in Pulaski County. The funding was part of the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Bill signed into law by President Trump on Tuesday, February 3, 2026.

Congressman Rogers also secured \$45 million for the project, which was signed into law in 2024, bringing the total federal investment to \$82 million for the project.

"This major federal investment paves the way for the future I-365 designation, connecting our region to I-65," said Congressman Rogers, Dean of the House. "I have been working diligently with federal, state and local officials to map out important transportation projects in Southern and Eastern Kentucky, and this federal funding catapults our shared vision into reality."

The new bypass will streamline a connection from the KY 461/KY 80 interchange near the Valley Oak Technology Complex to the Louie B. Nunn Cumberland Parkway at the

US 27 interchange.

"We are grateful to Congressman Hal Rogers for securing \$37 million for the Northern Bypass project," said Pulaski County Judge Executive Marshall Todd. "This long-anticipated investment moves Pulaski County another step closer to completing this much needed project. Through strong partnerships between Pulaski County Government, Congressman Rogers, state leadership, and other regional stakeholders, the Northern Bypass will improve connectivity, increase traffic through our community, attract new business investment, support job creation, and expand economic opportunities which will strengthen Pulaski County's role as a vital link between Eastern and Western Kentucky and beyond."

"This investment is great news for not only Pulaski County, but also our region. Connecting the US-27/Louie B. Nunn Cumberland Parkway interchange to the KY 461/KY 80 interchange creates a vital artery that will improve safety and is a strong step forward in expanding opportunities for local businesses, attracting new jobs, and strengthening our community's

future," said State Rep. Ken Upchurch, Chairman of the Budget Review Subcommittee on Transportation in the Kentucky House of Representatives. Once again Congressman Rogers has fought to provide our communities with vital funding and I appreciate his efforts."

Congressman Rogers secured a total of \$142 million for 14 Community Project Funding earmarks that have been signed into law for fiscal year 2026. Every county has the opportunity to apply for federal Community Project Funding in each congressional district.



STEVE CORNELIUS | CJ
U.S. Congressman Hal Rogers speaks in front of a crowd of local officials and business leaders during Tuesday's Eggs and Issues.

BRONSTON WATER ASSOCIATION, INC. CUSTOMER NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that Bronston Water Association, Inc., expects to file an application with the Kentucky Public Service Commission on or about January 30, 2026, seeking approval of a proposed adjustment to its water rates. The application will be filed pursuant to procedures set forth in 807 KAR 5:076. Under those procedures, the proposed rates may not be placed into effect until the Kentucky Public Service Commission has issued an order approving the proposed rates or six months from the date of the filing of the application, whichever occurs first.

CURRENT AND PROPOSED RATES BRONSTON WATER ASSOCIATION, INC.						
	Rates			Difference		
	Current	Proposed	Dollars	Percent		
5/8 x 3/4-Inch Meter						
First	1,500 gallons	\$ 25.81 Minimum Bill	\$ 33.87	\$.06	31.21%	
Over	1,500 gallons	0.00904 Per Gallon	0.01186	0.00282	31.21%	
1-Inch Meter						
First	5,000 gallons	55.27 Minimum Bill	72.52	17.25	31.21%	
Over	5,000 gallons	0.00904 Per Gallon	0.01186	0.00282	31.21%	
2-Inch Meter						
First	20,000 gallons	152.50 Minimum Bill	200.09	47.59	31.21%	
Over	20,000 gallons	0.00904 Per Gallon	0.01186	0.00282	31.21%	
4-Inch Meter						
First	50,000 gallons	356.26 Minimum Bill	467.45	111.19	31.21%	
Over	50,000 gallons	0.00904 Per Gallon	0.01186	0.00282	31.21%	

If the Kentucky Public Service Commission approves the proposed water rates, the average monthly bill for each meter size will increase as follows:

Meter Size	Average Monthly Usage	Bill At		Difference	
		Current Rate	New Rate	Dollars	Percent
5/8 x 3/4-Inch Meter	2,910	\$ 38.55	\$ 50.59	\$ 12.03	31.21%
1-Inch Meter	10,367	103.78	136.17	32.39	31.21%
2-Inch Meter	43,742	367.12	481.70	114.58	31.21%
4-Inch Meter	646,350	5,747.26	7,540.93	1,793.66	31.21%

The rates contained in this notice are the rates proposed by Bronston Water Association. However, the Kentucky Public Service Commission may order rates to be charged that differ from these proposed rates. Such action may result in rates for consumers other than the rates shown in this notice.

Bronston Water Association has available for inspection at its office the application which it submitted to the Kentucky Public Service Commission. A person may examine this application at the Association's office located at 2013 HWY 90, Bronston, Kentucky 42518. You may contact the office at (606) 561-5209.

A person may also examine the application at the Kentucky Public Service Commission's offices located at 211 Sower Boulevard, Frankfort, Kentucky, 40601, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., or through the Kentucky Public Service Commission's website at <http://psc.ky.gov>. Comments regarding the application may be submitted to the Kentucky Public Service Commission through its website or by mail to Kentucky Public Service Commission, PO Box 615, Frankfort, Kentucky, 40602. You may contact the Kentucky Public Service Commission at 502-564-3940.

A person may submit a timely written request for intervention to the Kentucky Public Service Commission, PO Box 615, Frankfort, KY, 40602, establishing the grounds for the request including the status and interest of the party. If the Kentucky Public Service Commission does not receive a written request for intervention within thirty (30) days of the initial publication of this notice, the Kentucky Public Service Commission may take final action on the application.

Alex Murdaugh continues to insist he didn't kill wife

BY JEFFREY COLLINS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

COLUMBIA, S.C. (AP) — Alex Murdaugh has admitted he is a thief, a liar, an insurance cheat, a drug addict and a bad lawyer. But even from behind bars he continues to adamantly deny he is a killer.

Murdaugh's lawyers argued Wednesday before the South Carolina Supreme Court, asking the justices to overturn the two murder convictions and life sentence Murdaugh is serving for the shooting deaths of his wife, Maggie, and younger son, Paul, outside their home in June 2021.

The defense argues the trial judge made rulings that prevented a fair trial, such as allowing in evidence of Murdaugh stealing from clients that had nothing to do with the killings but biased jurors against him. They detail the lack of physical evidence — no DNA or

blood was found splattered on Murdaugh or any of his clothes, even though the killings were at close range with powerful weapons that were never found.

And they said the court clerk assigned to oversee the evidence and the jury during the trial influenced jurors to find Murdaugh guilty, hoping to improve sales of a book she was writing about the case. She has since pleaded guilty to lying about what she said and did to a different judge.

Prosecutors argued that the clerk's comments were fleeting and the evidence against Murdaugh was overwhelming. His lawyer said that didn't matter because the comments a juror said she made — urging jurors to watch Murdaugh's body language and listen to his testimony carefully — removed his presumption of innocence before the jury ever deliberated.

RADON

Continued from 2

Bill and Hillary Clinton finalize agreement to testify in House Epstein probe

BY STEPHEN GROVES
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP) — Former President Bill Clinton and former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton finalized an agreement with House Republicans Tuesday to testify in a House investigation into Jeffrey Epstein this month, bowing to the threat of a contempt of Congress vote against them.

Hillary Clinton will testify before the House Oversight Committee on Feb. 26 and Bill Clinton will appear on Feb. 27. It will mark the first time that lawmakers have compelled a former president to testify.

The arrangement comes after months of negotiating between the two sides as Republicans sought to make the Clintons, both Democrats, a focal point in a House committee's investigation into Epstein, a convicted sex offender who killed himself in a New York jail cell in 2019,



FILE — Former President Bill Clinton, left, and former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton listen as Vice President Kamala Harris delivers a eulogy for U.S. Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee, Aug. 1, 2024, in Houston.

and Ghislaine Maxwell, his former girlfriend.

"We look forward to now questioning the Clintons as part of

our investigation into the horrific crimes of Epstein and Maxwell, to deliver transparency and accountability for the American

people and for survivors," Rep. James Comer, the chair of the House Oversight Committee, said in a statement.

For months, the Clintons resisted subpoenas from the committee, but House Republicans — with support from a few Democrats — had advanced criminal contempt of Congress charges to a potential vote this week. It threatened the Clintons with the potential for substantial fines and even prison time if they had been convicted.

House Speaker Mike Johnson said Tuesday that any effort to hold them in contempt of Congress were "on pause."

Even as the Clintons bowed to the pressure, the negotiating between GOP lawmakers and attorneys for the Clintons was marked by distrust as they wrangled over the details of the deposition. They agreed to have the closed-door depositions transcribed and recorded on video, Comer said.

to public health officials. The proclamation emphasizes that testing for radon is simple and inexpensive, and that elevated levels can be reduced through mitigation.

The county's announcement aligns with efforts by the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services Radon Program, local health departments and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to promote radon testing, lower high radon levels and educate the public on building radon-resistant homes.

In the proclamation, Todd urged Pulaski County residents to "focus attention on the importance of testing for and reducing levels of radon" to protect public health.

The proclamation was signed Jan. 30 at the Judge Executive's Office in Somerset, officially designating January 2026 as Radon Action Month in Pulaski County.

ARREST

Continued from 2

involved soliciting sex acts, according to a PCSO press release.

Detective Jay Picard investigated the information and secured a warrant for Barger's arrest, PCSO said.

Barger was taken into custody without incident Monday afternoon. He was lodged in the Pulaski County Detention Center, where he is currently being held in lieu of a \$20,000 cash bond.

Picard was assisted by CID Detective Lieutenant Matt Bryant and Detective Ryan Jones, Narcotics

Detective Lieutenant Daryl Kegley and Detective Tan Hudson, and Deputy Zachary Huff.

Readers are reminded that a charge is an accusation only, and that all suspects are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

2 BR DUPLEX
with garage in country but close to town.
No HUD or No Pets
\$950 plus deposit
606-271-6060

**IN THE HOWARD CIRCUIT COURT
CAUSE NO. 34C01-2307-CT-001758**

STATE OF INDIANA
COUNTY OF HOWARD SS:

SCOTT W. SHIMER, JILL C. SHIMER, and CECILIA SHIMER Plaintiffs,
vs.
WILLIAM R. LYONS, JAMES DERRICK LYONS, and
JESSICA ISENBERG Defendants

SUMMONS

This summons is to the defendants named, and to any other person who may be concerned. You are notified that you have been sued in the Circuit Court of Howard County, Indiana, 104 N. Buckeye Street, #310, Kokomo, Indiana 46901 (765-456-2202), in an action entitled Scott W. Shimer, Jill C. Shimer and Cecilia Shimer v. William R. Lyons, James Derrick Lyons, and Jessica Isenberg, Cause Number 34C01-2307-CT-001758, by the persons named above as plaintiffs. This summons by publication is specifically directed to defendant William R. Lyons and to defendant James Derrick Lyons whose whereabouts are unknown.

The named plaintiffs are represented by David A. Cox, Bayliff, Harrigan, Cord, Maugans & Cox, P.C., Bar #4063-34, 319 N. Main Street, Kokomo, Indiana 46901.

The nature of this suit against you is for personal injuries arising from a vehicle collision occurring in Kokomo, Indiana, on or about July 14, 2021 at the intersection of Lincoln Road and Highway 931. Plaintiffs claim injury and damages arising from the negligent driving and negligent entrustment of the defendants.

An answer or other response in writing to the Complaint must be filed either by you or your attorney within 30 days after the third notice of suit is published, and if you fail to do so, judgment by default may be rendered against you for the relief demanded by the plaintiffs.

Dated: 01/16/2026

Debra C. Stewart

Clerk, Howard Circuit Court
Debra C. Stewart
104 N. Buckeye Street, Room 202
Kokomo, Indiana 46901
765-456-2000



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